ST status to certain communities of Assam

2774. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a proposal listing out the names of certain communities from Assam has been sent by the State Government of Assam for restoring them the Scheduled Tribes status, if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(b) the unspent amount surrendered during 2004-05 under the Tribal Affairs Department; and

(c) whether the unspent amount could be earmarked against the schemes available with his Ministry for the schemes sent by the State Governments outside normal allocation?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal received from the State Government of Assam has been processed as per the approved modalities.

(b) Rs. 16.49 crores were unspent at the end of the year 2004-05 from the Plan funds of the Ministry, with reference to the permitted expenditure of Rs. 1069.45 crores.

(c) As per Financial Rules, this unspent amount could not have been earmaked for the schemes sent by the State Government outside normal allocation.

Safe drinking water for Delhi

2775. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Delhi and other places in NCR have been receiving dirty water from taps;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to provide pure and safe drinking water to the people?